
BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2020

Fiscal Services Division

July 1, 2020



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

Farm Management Demonstration

Purpose and History

The 2000 General Assembly created the Farm Management Demonstration appropriation, which is intended for the demonstration of voluntary farm management practices. Practices are required to provide environmental benefits generally directed toward water quality improvements. The appropriation allows 10.0% of appropriated dollars to be used for the administration of conservation practices. Appropriated dollars are split between Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, which operates Iowa Learning Farms, and the Iowa Soybean Association.

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach. The Extension allocates appropriated dollars to Iowa Learning Farms, which educates agricultural producers in conservation practices including reduced tillage, terraces, waterways, and cover crops. Appropriated dollars support demonstration projects that utilize these conservation practices throughout Iowa. Local leaders are relied upon to provide demonstration tours and information. Additionally, the Extension uses the funds to support environmental research pertaining to water quality.

Iowa Soybean Association (ISA). Appropriated dollars support the ISA On-Farm Network, which conducts field tests across Iowa. The network uses the Global Positioning System (GPS) to measure the impact of different technologies and practices on yield and soil nutrients. Research results, available to the public on the ISA's website, are intended to provide accessible and usable information to soybean producers. Field strip testing compares products, application methods, timing, or other management practices.

Funding History

Since FY 2001, the Farm Management Demonstration appropriation has received between \$350,000 and \$850,000 annually from the Environment First Fund. Allocations to the Iowa Soybean Association began in FY 2005 and have ranged from \$370,000 to \$400,000. For FY 2018, the appropriation was decreased to \$375,000, and the appropriation was allocated entirely to the Iowa Soybean Association. There was no funding for the Farm Management Demonstration appropriation for FY 2019.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapter [185](#)

Budget Unit Number

009072H0295

More Information

Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship: www.iowaagriculture.gov
Iowa Learning Farms: www.iowalearningfarms.org
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